

THERE IS CLAIMED:

1. A transmit-receive system on board a satellite for a telecommunication system within a region covered by that system, wherein said region includes isolated areas, said system receives calls from any area and transmits them to the same area or another area using routing means, said system includes means for combining the signals from said isolated areas into groups, routing is effected between groups and each group is allocated all of the communication resources of said region.
2. The system claimed in claim 1 wherein said routing means are hardwired.
3. The system claimed in claim 1 wherein said areas are allocated to said groups in such a manner that the traffic is substantially the same from one group to another.
4. The system claimed in claim 1 including switching means for modifying the composition of said groups so that at least one area can be transferred from one group to another.
5. The system claimed in claim 1 wherein said means for grouping said signals of several areas are part of said antenna system.
6. The system claimed in claim 5 wherein said means for grouping said signals of several areas use a beam-forming network.
7. The system claimed in claim 1 wherein said means for grouping said signals from several areas are part of repeater means.
8. The system claimed in claim 1 wherein said routing means allocate communication resources so that said signals received by a first group from a second group are distinguished from signals received from a third group by virtue of having different resources.
9. The system claimed in claim 8 wherein said resources allocated to said groups for interconnecting them include frequency bands.
10. The system claimed in claim 9 wherein said resources further include polarizations.
11. The system claimed in claim 1 wherein at least some of said areas corresponding to the same group are geographically far apart.
12. The system claimed in claim 1 wherein the number of areas in a group is from 1 to 10.
13. The system claimed in claim 1 wherein the number of groups is 4.